

ST. MARY'S ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE
Fall 2021

Class Day & Time: Thursday, 6:00 – 8:30 pm

TH601 Introduction to Theological Study

Instructor: Dr. Brent Laytham

Course Description:

An introduction to the study of theology, including what theology is and how theology is done. Students will develop the ability to read, think, and write critically and faithfully, through a focus on what Christians believe in common.

Course Requirements:

A complete set of requirements will be included in the course syllabus.

- **Reading, Viewing, and Responding:** Students will read about 800 pages of required reading over the semester. Students will watch assigned videos most weeks (often short, never more than 30 minutes). Most weeks require a short response by class time (a question, sentence, or short list). Responding will constitute 10% of final course grade.
- **Active Learning:** Class participation is an essential aspect of our shared learning. Students will read, write, analyze, and discuss in class. Class participation will constitute 10% of final course grade.
- **Writing:** There are five short writing assignments (which involve summarizing, analyzing, comparing, and arguing). Total writing for the semester will be no more than 18 pages. In total, writing assignments will constitute 80% of one's final grade for the course.

Required Texts

Frederick Christian Bauerschmidt, *The Love that God Is: An Invitation to Christian Faith* (Eerdmans, 2020) ISBN-13: 978-0802877956

Edgardo Colón-Emeric and Mark Gorman, *The Saving Mysteries of Jesus Christ* (Cascade, 2019) ISBN 978-1-5326-7606-2

Elaine A. Robinson, *Exploring Theology* (Fortress Press, 2014) ISBN-13: 978-1451488913.

Various supplemental required readings will be provided through the online learning course shell called Canvas.